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WAREHAM AND PURBECK RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR THE YEAR  
1957





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## PREFACE

Public Health Office,  
12a, Institute Road,  
Swanage, Dorset.

To the Chairman and Members of the Wareham and Purbeck  
Rural District Council

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my Annual Report on the health and sanitary conditions of the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District for the year 1957.

The health of the district, generally speaking, remained satisfactory throughout the year, although there was an increase in the number of deaths due to pneumonia and influenza, probably due to the epidemic of Asian influenza towards the end of the year.

The number of births registered were 51 more, and the number of deaths were 10 fewer than in 1956.

It is pleasing to be able to report that a start will probably be made before this report has been prepared, on the first stage of the Council's comprehensive water scheme, and on a local scheme for the supply of water to the Harmans Cross area where the need is most urgent.

The most important event in the year 1957, was that the Atomic Energy Authority commenced construction of their atomic energy research establishment at Winfrith Heath, on a site which lies within and midway on the western boundary of the district. This fact serves as a reminder that we are at the beginning of a period which is likely to see the increasing use of atomic energy and radioactive materials in industry, which will bring new hazards, requiring fresh knowledge on the part of all concerned with public health.

The housing position in the district remains much the same as in 1956. There was a slight decrease in the number of applicants for Council houses, and fewer houses were built during the year.

The report is set out in sections in the following order -

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My thanks are due to the Members of the Council for their kindness and consideration, and the Public Health Inspectors and other Officers of the Council for their help and co-operation throughout the year. In addition, I would like to thank Mr. Grant for his help in preparing this report, and Mr. Flatt for his notes on the engineering aspect of water supply and sewerage.

I have the honour to be

Your obedient Servant

E. J. O'KEEFFE

Medical Officer of Health

August, 1958.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

E. J. O'Keefe, B.A., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H.

SENIOR PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E. D. Grant, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I. - Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.  
Meat and Food Certificate

ADDITIONAL PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F. A. White, M.A.P.H.I. - Cert. R.S.I. & S.I.E.J.B.  
Meat and Food Certificate

Office accommodation and clerical assistance for the Medical Officer of Health, who is also Medical Officer of Health for the Borough of Wareham and Swanage Urban District, and Assistant County Medical Officer, Dorset, is provided jointly by the Authorities concerned.

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# STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS

## General Statistics

1.	Area of the Rural District	.. ..	95,954 acres
2.	Population -		
	At Census 1951	.. ..	19,307
	As estimated by Registrar General:	..	
	Home population mid 1956	..	20,480
	mid 1957	..	20,760
3.	Total number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book at end of 1956		5,328
	at end of 1957		5,469
4.	Rateable value at 1st. April, 1957		£171,346
5.	Sum represented by Penny Rate	.. ..	£749.10.7d.

## SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE YEAR 1957

			<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
<u>Live Births</u>					
Total registered	.. ..		368	181	187
Legitimate	.. ..		358	177	181
Illegitimate	.. ..		10	4	6
<u>Still Births</u>					
Total registered	.. ..		10	6	4
Legitimate	.. ..		10	6	4
Illegitimate	.. ..		-	-	-
<u>Deaths</u>					
Total registered	.. ..		183	95	88
<u>Infant Mortality</u>					
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year of age</u>					
Total registered	.. ..		10	3	7
Legitimate	.. ..		9	3	6
Illegitimate	.. ..		1	-	1
<u>Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks of age</u>					
Total registered	.. ..		8	2	6
Legitimate	.. ..		7	2	5
Illegitimate	.. ..		1	-	1

BIRTH, DEATH AND INFANT MORTALITY RATES, 1957

Crude Birth Rate per 1,000 Home population 17.7

Crude Death Rate per 1,000 Home Population 8.8

Area Comparability Factors

Births 1.10      Deaths 1.19

	<u>Wareham &amp; Purbeck</u>	<u>England &amp; Wales</u>
Live Birth Rate (Standardised) per 1,000 Home population	19.4	16.1
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 (Live & Still Births)	26.5	22.4
Death Rate (Standardised) per 1,000 Home Population	10.5	11.5
Infant Mortality rates per 1,000 Live Births - all causes under 1 year of age	27.2	23.0

CAUSES OF DEATH - YEAR 1957

(Supplied by the Registrar General)

	Cause of Death	Male	Female	Total
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory .. ..	-	2	2
2	Tuberculosis, other .. ..	1	-	1
3	Syphilitic disease .. ..	1	-	1
4	Diphtheria .. ..	-	-	-
5	Whooping cough .. ..	-	-	-
6	Meningococcal infections .. ..	-	-	-
7	Acute poliomyelitis .. ..	-	-	-
8	Measles .. ..	-	-	-
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases .. ..	-	-	-
10	Malignant neoplasm, stomach .. ..	1	2	3
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus .. ..	4	-	4
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast .. ..	-	2	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus .. ..	-	1	1
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms .. ..	15	9	24
15	Leukemia, aleukemia .. ..	1	1	2
16	Diabetes .. ..	-	-	-
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system .. ..	8	16	24
18	Coronary disease .. ..	18	7	25
19	Hypertension with heart disease .. ..	2	-	2
20	Other heart diseases .. ..	12	19	31
21	Other circulatory diseases .. ..	3	5	8
22	Influenza .. ..	2	2	4
23	Pneumonia .. ..	4	4	8
24	Bronchitis .. ..	5	1	6
25	Other diseases of respiratory system .. ..	1	1	2
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum .. ..	1	1	2
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea .. ..	1	1	2
28	Nephritis and nephrosis .. ..	4	-	4
29	Hyperplasia of prostate .. ..	1	-	1
30	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion .. ..	-	-	-
31	Congenital malformations .. ..	2	3	5
32	Other defined and ill defined diseases .. ..	4	11	15
33	Motor vehicle accidents .. ..	2	-	2
34	All other accidents .. ..	-	-	-
35	Suicide .. ..	2	-	2
36	Homicide and operations of war .. ..	-	-	-
	Total .. ..	95	88	183



## SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

### WATER SUPPLY

The water supply situation in the district has remained substantially the same as in 1956. The acute shortage of water which is experienced every summer in the Harmans Cross, Valley Road area of the parish of Langton Matravers will be overcome by a scheme which has been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government.

The cleaning and deepening of the bore at East Knighton has proved well worth while, and the summer demand at Winfrith was met without any of the restrictions found necessary in the previous year.

It is satisfactory to be able to report that, with the completion of negotiations with the War Department for a supply to Bovington Camp and the completion of negotiations with the Atomic Energy Authority for a supply to their research establishment at Winfrith Heath, works on the first stage of the Council's comprehensive scheme for water supply to the district is likely to start early in 1958.

Discussions continued during the year with neighbouring water undertakers with a view to forming a Joint East Dorset Water Board.

A total of 117 samples of water were taken during the year for bacteriological examination. 33 samples were taken from public supplies, 14 from small piped supplies and 70 from individual wells. The results of bacteriological examinations are given on page 5. In no case was there an unsatisfactory result from public piped supplies.

#### Statutory Areas of Supply of Water Undertakings Within the District

Poole Corporation Supply: The parishes of Lytchett Minster and Lytchett Matravers; so much of the parish of Morden as lies to the north of an imaginary straight line commencing at the most westerly extremity of the parish of Lytchett Matravers and running in a direction west by north terminating at the southernmost extremity of the parish of Sturminster Marshall, and so much of the parish of Wareham St. Martin as lies to the east of an imaginary line drawn parallel to and 200 yards to the west of the main road from Blandford to Wareham.

Swanage Urban District Council's Supply: The parish of Langton Matravers and the village of Corfe Castle.

Lulworth Castle Estate Supply: The parish of West Lulworth.

#### Proposed New Water Supplies

##### Main Comprehensive Scheme

This scheme is for the supply of water from the Council's borehole at Briantspuddle, which was acquired in 1952, to parts of the district not already served by a piped supply from a public water undertaking.

Contract documents for the first stage proposals were completed and sent to selected Tenderers on 23rd. December, with a view to making as early a start as possible. These proposals consist of a 2 million gallon reinforced concrete reservoir at Blackhill, Bere Regis; an 18" diameter trunk main to Long Thorns via Chamberlaynes Bridge; a 15" diameter main to East Burton near the Seven Stars Inn at which the Atomic Energy Research Establishment will take their supply. At Long Thorns there will be a 9" diameter branch main to supply Bovington Camp. Also a 15" diameter rising main from Briantspuddle Waterworks to Blackhill, and a 4" diameter distribution main from Wool Level Crossing to East Burton.

It is hoped that the 18" and 15" mains and at least <sup>one</sup> ~~two~~ compartments of the reservoir will be completed by November 1958.



## Temporary Village District Schemes

These are schemes for the supply of water from local sources until water becomes available from the main Briantspuddle source, and are planned so that the greater part of the installation and distributing mains can be used when the main comprehensive scheme is developed. Schemes have already been completed for supplying Church Knowle, Bloxworth and Morden, Winfrith, Stoborough, Ridge and Acton.

Studland: This scheme is still in abeyance.

### Harmans Cross:

Scheme proposals for a water supply to this locality have been submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government and it is hoped that a start will be made on this work in 1958. Water will be taken in bulk from the Swanage Urban District Council's supply via the Rural Council's reservoir at Acton

### Cold Harbour:

The Council has approved in principle an extension of a water main to Cold Harbour. Negotiations are still taking place with Poole Corporation and Wareham Borough Council regarding a bulk supply.

## Piped Supplies      Public.

Acton: From a bulk supply taken from Swanage Urban District Council's supply.

Affpuddle and Turners Puddle: From the Briantspuddle source. This water is derived from a deep bore in the chalk at Briantspuddle and is chlorinated. Samples taken for bacteriological examination have proved satisfactory.

Bestwall area and a few houses at Worgret: From the Wareham Borough Council's supply.

Church Knowle, Bloxworth and Morden, and Winfrith are each supplied from local sources by the Rural District Council.

Corfe Castle and Langton Matravers: From the Swanage Urban District Council's supply.

Stoborough and Ridge are supplied by the Rural District Council with water purchased in bulk from the Wareham Borough Council.

Upton, Lytchett Minster, Lytchett Matravers, Organford and Sandford from Poole Corporation supply.

West Lulworth, East Lulworth and Coombe Keynes from the Lulworth Castle Estate supply.

These supplies have been satisfactory throughout the year both with regard to quantity and quality.

## Privately Owned

Chaldon Herring has a standpipe supply from Lulworth Castle Estate and the water bacteriologically is highly satisfactory.

Kingston, Kimmeridge and Wool Village have small piped gravity supplies from surface springs. The water, with the exception of the Kingston supply which is chlorinated, is untreated and the results of bacteriological examination of samples taken from these small supplies are variable.

Studland Village supply is derived from surface water collected on neighbouring heathland areas. The water is sand filtered and give consistent highly satisfactory results. The quantity of water available is very limited and shortage is experienced during summer months.

There has been no major alteration to the source of supply in these areas during the year.



Number of Houses and Population in each Parish having a Piped Supply

Parish	No. of Houses	Popula- tion	Name of Supply	Direct to		By means of	
				Houses	Pop.	Houses	Pop.
(i) Water supplied by Statutory Undertakings							
Affpuddle	123	394	R.D.C.	59	194	46	154
Arne	296	804	"	208	564	-	-
Bere Regis	362	1151	"	109	355	6	16
Bloxworth	69	204	"	67	190	-	-
Church Knowle	131	420	"	96	319	-	-
Corfe Castle	492	1426	Swanage U.D.C.	269	913	46	151
Langton Matravers	343	1194	"	152	547	130	410
Lytchett Matravers	386	1155	Poole Corporation	155	551	-	-
Lytchett Minster	841	2422	"	676	547	15	48
Wareham St. Martin	432	1341	"	413	1175	-	-
West Lulworth	198	744	Lulworth Estate	129	470	70	256
Wool	561	2050	Bov. Camp W.D.	152	460	18	63
Morden	155	490	R.D.C.	124	458	-	-
Turners Puddle	24	87	"	10	27	5	14
Winfrith	206	599	"	139	506	-	-
(ii) Water Supplied by Private Estate - Village Supplies							
Chaldon Herring	68	197	Lulworth Estate	11	29	25	80
Coombe Keynes	32	106	"	15	40	17	47
Corfe Castle	492	1410	Encombe Estate	35	128	-	-
			Bankes Estate	10	35	-	-
East Holme	17	54	Private Supply	8	21	-	-
East Lulworth	80	275	Lulworth Estate	34	109	40	127
East Stoke	116	349	Private supply	12	40	-	-
Kimmeridge	29	79	"	6	19	22	66
Lytchett Matravers	377	1105	"	11	36	-	-
Moreton	90	301	"	8	25	-	-
Steeple	45	154	"	8	23	4	11
Studland	210	637	Bankes Estate	124	363	37	116
Wool	561	2050	Private supply	91	235	-	-
Worth Matravers	209	593	"	15	43	-	-

Bacteriological Examinations of Water Supplies

Supply	Parish	No. of Samples	Satis- factory	Suspi- cious	Unsatis- factory
<u>1. Public Supplies</u>					
Wareham & Purbeck R.D.C.	Briantspuddle	8	8	-	-
	Church Knowle	8	8	-	-
	Bloxworth	8	8	-	-
	Winfrith	8	8	-	-
W.D. Bovington Camp	Wool (Bovington)	1	1	-	-
<u>2. Village Piped Supplies Privately Owned</u>					
Private Estate Supplies	Studland	2	2	-	-
	Kingston	1	1	-	-
	Winfrith	10	8	-	2
	Kimmeridge	1	1	-	-
<u>3. Individual Wells and Supplies</u>					
Private wells, Springs etc.	Lytchett Matravers	7	6	-	1
	Arne	3	1	-	2
	East Stoke	8	1	1	6
	Morden	1	1	-	-
	Bere Regis	7	3	2	2
	Worth Matravers	9	7	1	1
	Corfe Castle	12	7	1	4
	Wool	20	4	1	15
	Langton Matravers	1	-	-	1
	Wareham St. Martin	2	2	-	-



## SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

There are main sewerage systems in the villages of West Lulworth, Langton Matravers and Briantspuddle, and in the Sandford and Bestwall areas of the parish of Wareham St. Martin. Where there are no public sewerage systems the Council's housing estates in the various parishes have their own small sewage disposal units. The majority of the newer houses in the district have cesspool drainage and the Council maintains a cesspool emptying service. Many of the older cottage properties have pail closet sanitation.

The Briantspuddle sewerage scheme was completed in March 1957; particulars of this and other sewerage systems are given on page 7.

The second stage of the extension of the Sandford sewerage system to a housing site east of Gore Hill, which will ultimately serve about 120 to 130 houses, was completed in August 1957.

### Proposed Sewerage Schemes

#### Corfe Castle

This scheme, which was the subject of a Ministry of Health Inquiry in 1947 is in abeyance for the time being.

#### Upton

By the end of the year tenders had been invited for the work on this scheme, and it was hoped to make a start early in 1958.

#### Wool

Preliminary investigations were almost completed for a sewerage scheme for Wool and East Burton, which would include for treating the 'non active' effluent from the Atomic Energy Research Establishment at Winfrith Heath.

### Public Conveniences

#### Corfe Castle:

The Rural District Council provided a public convenience in 1951 to meet the need of tourists visiting this village.

#### Lulworth Cove

Conveniences are provided at Lulworth Cove by the owner of the beach to meet the need of holiday makers.

#### Studland:

Conveniences are provided at both ends of the beach by the owner to meet the needs of holiday makers.

It is expected the Council will be able to proceed with the scheme for a public convenience in the village in 1958.



Number of Houses Connected to Public Sewers and Number of Cesspools abolished during the year

Parish	No. of Connections to Sewer	No. of Cesspools abolished
Langton Matravers	4	Nil
Wareham St. Martin		
(a) Sandford	12	"
(b) Bestwall	Nil	"
West Lulworth	3	2
Total	19	2

#### Public Sewerage System

1 Parish	2 Locality	3 No. of houses connected to sewer	4 No. of houses within 100' which could be connected to sewer	5 Total houses in parish	6 Percent Col. 4 connected to sewer	7 Percent Col. 5 connected to sewer
Langton Matravers	Village	132	225	543	58.6	38.4
Wareham St. Martin	Sandford	194	200	432	97.0	44.9
	Bestwall	67	67		100.0	
West Lulworth	Village	148	153	211	96.7	70.0
Affpuddle	Briantspuddle	44	63	117	69.8	37.6

#### Remarks:

The West Lulworth sewage which is untreated is discharged into the sea in the deep water to the west of Lulworth Cove.

Sandford sewage is treated by sedimentation, sludge drying and effluent filtration. The effluent is discharged into the River Piddle.

Bestwall sewage is discharged untreated into the adjoining Wareham Borough Sewer.

Langton Matravers sewage is discharged untreated into the Swanage Urban District Council's sewerage system.

Briantspuddle sewage is treated by sedimentation, sludge drying and effluent filtration. The effluent ultimately reaches the River Piddle.

#### Public Cleansing

##### Refuse Collection

A satisfactory fortnightly collection service was maintained throughout the year. The refuse of the whole district is disposed of in a large disused gravel pit on an uninhabited heathland site. There has been no complaint of nuisance or rat infestation arising from the site.

##### Cesspool Emptying

The cesspool emptier is working overtime in order to deal with all requests received. Difficulties are still experienced in finding suitable sites for the disposal of sewage and sludge.



SANITARY INSPECTIONS OF THE AREA

Summary of the Public Health Inspectors' work for the Year 1957.

Total number of Inspections and visits

Complaints and Nuisances

Investigated	...	...	...	110
Visits	...	...	...	119

Housing

Housing Acts

No. of houses inspected for defects	...	...	...	174
Visits for such purposes	...	...	...	184
Houses requiring repair	...	...	...	29
Houses overcrowded	...	...	...	12
Revisits	...	...	...	9

Public Health Acts

No. of houses inspected	...	...	...	133
No. of houses requiring repair	...	...	...	36
Visits	...	...	...	164

Drainage

Inspections of cesspools, septic tanks, etc.	...	...	...	277
Drains reconstructed or repaired	...	...	...	6
Drains tested	...	...	...	146
Cesspools drainage connected to sewer	...	...	...	2
Effluents sampled	...	...	...	3

Water Samples

Visits	...	...	...	69
Samples	...	...	...	66

Registered and Other Premises

Moveable dwellings	...	...	...	65
Schools	...	...	...	10
Public premises (Cinemas, Lavatories etc)	...	...	...	29
Piggeries and stables	...	...	...	16
Factories	...	...	...	30

Infectious and Other diseases

No. of houses visited	...	...	...	12
Visits	...	...	...	12
Disinfections carried out	...	...	...	7
Bedding and clothing disinfected	...	...	...	5

Verminous Premises

No. of houses visited	...	...	...	14
No. of visits	...	...	...	14
Bedding and other clothing disinfected	...	...	...	4
Disinfestations	...	...	...	11

Food

Visits

Food premises - Stores, Shops, Stalls, etc.	...	...	...	163
Slaughterhouses, Butchers shops	...	...	...	519
Bakehouses	...	...	...	22
Dairies, Milkshops	...	...	...	17

Food Sampling

Milk Samples	...	...	...	Nil
Ice Cream	...	...	...	59

Diseases of animals

No. of visits	...	...	...	4
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Abatement of Nuisances - Public Health Acts

Nuisances investigated	...	...	...	110
Informal notices served	...	...	...	15
Statutory notices served	...	...	...	23
No. of nuisances abated after (a) Informal notice	...	...	...	13
(b) Statutory notice	...	...	...	7
No. of Informal notices outstanding 31.12.57	...	...	...	2
No. of Statutory notices outstanding 31.12.57	...	...	...	16



## INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

### Milk Supply

All milk sold by retail in the district is either pasteurised, tuberculin tested pasteurised, or tuberculin tested, as the Wareham and Purbeck Rural District is part of a specified area under Section 45 of the Food and Drugs (Milk and Dairies and Artificial Cream) Act, 1950.

No. of Milk Distributors on Register 31.12.57	...	14
No. of Dairy Premises on Register 31.12.57	...	4
Visits made to dairies during year	...	17
Number of notices served on Owners with respect to dairies	5	
Number of notices complied with	...	4

### Milk (Special Designation) Regulations 1949

The following licences granted by this Local Authority were in force at the end of the year -

No. of Dealers Licences for Tuberculin tested milk	9
No. of Dealers Licences for Pasteurised Milk ...	18
No. of Supplementary Licences to sell T.T. Milk ...	5
No. of Supplementary Licences to sell Pasteurised milk	8

In addition one Pasteurising establishment in the district is licensed by the Food and Drugs Authority.

### Milk Sampling

The following are particulars of the 195 samples of milk taken in the district by the Food and Drugs Authority. Copies of the reports on all samples are sent to the District Medical Officer of Health.

Designation	No. of Samples	Results of Tests			
		Methylene Blue		Phosphatase	
		Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Pasteurised	127	127	-	127	-
Tuberculin Tested	25	17	8		
Pasteurised T.T.	43	43	-	43	-
Total	195	187	8	170	-

### Ice Cream

During the year there were 6 new registrations for the sale of Ice-cream under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955. This brings the total number of premises on the register to 82. One application was refused on the grounds that the premises were not in compliance with the requirements of the Act.

59 samples were taken during the year and submitted to the Methylene Blue Reductase test with the following results:-

<u>No. of Samples</u>	<u>Provisional Grade</u>
56	1
2	2
1	3
Nil	4



Meat and Other Foods

Meat - The three slaughterhouses originally licensed by this Council in 1954 have continued in use throughout the year. They are:-

- (1) Parkstone & Bournemouth Co-Operative Society Slaughterhouse,  
Palmerston Road, Upton.
- (2) J. W. Moss, West Street, Corfe Castle.
- (3) T. E. Applin & Sons, 85 West Street, Bere Regis.

Once again I am able to report that a 100% meat inspection service has been maintained throughout the year some 519 inspections having been made. The following table indicates the details of carcasses inspected. This represents a 5% increase on the previous year.

		Cattle	Cows	Calves	Sheep	Pigs
No. of animals killed		1061	1253	639	2531	10260
No. of carcasses inspected		1061	1253	639	2531	10260
All diseases except T.B.	Carcasses condemned	1	5	7	7	30
	Carcasses of which some part was condemned	204	406	6	431	2714
	Percentage	19.3%	32.8%	2.0%	17.3%	26.7%
T.B. Only	Carcasses condemned	1	8	Nil	Nil	8
	Carcasses of which some part was condemned	8	6	Nil	Nil	107
	Percentage	0.8%	5.6%	Nil	Nil	1.1%

Total weight of meat and offal condemned - 14 tons 0 cwts. 2 qtrs. 8 lbs.

In addition some 8 carcasses were found to be infected with *Cysticercus Bovis*. The infected organs were condemned and the carcasses detained in freeze for 21 days. This gives an incidence of 0.6%.

An interesting feature, demonstrated in the table below, is the general decline in the incidence of Tuberculosis, and this is no doubt due to the various Government policies of "designated areas" "T.T. milk" and the exclusion from T.T. herds of all positive reactors.

Tuberculosis in cows	1951	-	19.6%
	1952	-	16.3%
	1954	-	15.7%
	1955	-	12.2%
	1956	-	10.2%
	1957	-	5.6%

The incidence of those diseases other than T.B. remains fairly constant throughout the years and the condition resulting in the condemnation of a great deal of offal is that of the parasitic liver fluke. Approximately 21% of cattle and cows had livers condemned as a result of this condition.

In April 1957 (Circular FSH 2/57) a scheme was devised to cover costs incurred by Local Authority's meat inspection services and particularly for those districts where meat is inspected and "exported" to other districts. Briefly the calculation is made by multiplying the district population by 1.5; each animal carcass inspected is converted into units to arrive at a grand unit total for all animals inspected, the difference between these figures indicating the export calculation for the district. The export figure for this district during the current year was 29,056 units as against a home consumption of 30,720 units.

In December, Mr. F. A. White, Additional Public Health Inspector obtained the certificate of the Royal Society of Health for the inspection of Meat and other foods.



Other Foods

The undermentioned foodstuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption and were condemned.

Meat Products

1 tin of Boneless ham -  $7\frac{1}{2}$  lbs.  
 4 tins pork luncheon meat - 3 lbs  
 3 tins Brawn -  $2\frac{1}{4}$  lbs.

Fish

Cod fillets - 116 lbs.

Fresh Meat

Part hind quarter - 78 lbs  
 1 lamb (frozen) - 40 lbs  
 1 side bacon - 81 lbs  
 Bacon - sliced rashers - 9 lbs  
 1 fore bacon - 16 lbs.

It has been noted that the quantity of other foods condemned has gradually declined over the past few years. Formerly a large part of such foods as these were condemned at the request of the retailer, who, by the production of a condemnation certificate could obtain replacements from the wholesaler.

Now that the years of austerity and food shortage have passed and been replaced by a "sales resistance" it appears that producers and wholesalers of canned foods, etc. have become increasingly aware of the public demand for a sound article and replace without question a faulty product.

Knackers Yards

During the year one new knackers yard was approved and licensed and this now makes a total of two in the rural district. Conditions in both were found to be satisfactory throughout the year.

Watercress

Throughout the year routine inspections were made at the watercress beds at Wool, Bere Regis and Waddock Cross, and conditions were found satisfactory.

Water samples were periodically taken from the beds and all gave satisfactory analyses.

Preserved Food Premises

The total number of premises registered for the preparation or manufacture of preserved foods at the end of the year was eight.

Food Premises(1) No. of Food Premises by type of business in the district

Grocery & General Provisions	62	Green Groceries	6
Sweets - Confectioners	12	Bakehouses	7
Fried Fish Shops	4	Butchers Shops	8
Hotels and Public Houses	31	Slaughterhouses	3
Cafes & Restaurants	30		

(2) No. of Food Premises by type registered(a) Under Sec. 14 Food and Drugs Act 1931

Manufacturers of Sausages etc.	4
Fish Frying	4
Sale of Ice cream	82

(b) Under Milk & Dairies Regulation

Dairy premises	4
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(3) No. of Inspections of Registered Food Premises

Premises for manufacture of sausages	16
Fish Frying premises	8
Ice cream	59
Dairy	17

H O U S I N G

The statistics of the Rural Housing Survey completed in 1956, are tabulated below in an amended form after making allowances for the construction of new houses; the demolition of unfit houses and the recategorisation of others following improvement grants.

<u>Total</u>	<u>Cat. 1</u>	<u>Cat. 2</u>	<u>Cat. 3</u>	<u>Cat. 4</u>	<u>Cat. 5</u>
5,100	1,983	633	870	1,184	430

A moderate policy for the demolition of unfit properties or slum clearance has been pursued with the result that 11 demolition orders or undertakings have either been made or accepted.

The number of applications for improvement grants fell slightly from the previous year's total. Nevertheless, during the year some 62 applications for grant were approved. The following particulars will give some idea of the popularity of the enactment -

<u>Year</u>	<u>No. of applications</u>
1951	2
1952	Nil
1953	7
1954	43
1955	60
1956	76
1957	62

The number of applicants on the waiting list for Council houses at the end of the year was 315, which is 16 less than the previous year. The total number of new houses built in the district was 73, which is 27 less than in 1956.

The following note which appeared in the Annual Report for 1956 is still appropriate - "A number of those for rehousing are newly married couples and young families who look forward to having homes of their own but are forced to live in furnished rooms. These families live under conditions which produce considerable mental strain and tension, which may lead to complete disruption of the family and serious manifestations of antisocial behaviour in the children. I would, therefore, urge the Council to give the utmost priority for rehousing to newly weds and young families living in furnished rooms".

New Houses

Total number of new houses erected during 1957 -

(a) Permanent	...	...	73
(b) Prefabricated	...	...	Nil
(c) Temporary	...	...	1

Total number erected during 1957 with State assistance -

(a) By Local Authority -			
(i) Permanent	...	...	23
(ii) Prefabricated	...	...	Nil
(b) By Other Bodies or Persons	...	...	Nil

Number erected during the year by private enterprise 50

Number of temporary dwellings erected ... 1

Number of houses owned by the Local Authority ... 929



Control of Moveable Dwellings

During the year the Council approved, under Section 269, Public Health Act, 1936, the issue of 5 licences to station individual moveable dwellings and 7 licences to use sites for moveable dwellings.

Licences in force at 31.12.57

(1) Sites	...	...	...	39
(2) Individual caravans	...	...	...	85

Included in the licences to station individual caravans are two licences granted to persons who intend building a permanent dwelling.

HOUSING PROGRESS - 1957

Parish	Houses Completed 1957	In course of construction at end of 1957	Total houses owned 31.12.57	Proposed houses 1958	No. of Applicants on housing list Dec.57
Affpuddle	5	-	5	2	3
Arne	2	-	48	-	16
Bere Regis	2	-	76	2	10
Bloxworth	-	-	8	-	1
Chaldon Herring	-	-	8	-	1
Church Knowle	-	-	6	-	2
Coombe Keynes	-	-	6	-	-
Corfe Castle	-	2	56	2	30
East Holme	-	-	-	-	1
East Lulworth	-	-	6	-	-
East Stoke	-	-	10	-	2
Kimmeridge	-	-	-	-	-
Langton Matravers	-	2	42	2	10
Lytchett Matravers	2	-	86	2	16
Lytchett Minster	4	-	136(6)	4	50
Morden	-	-	22	2	8
Moreton	4	-	6	-	5
Steeple	-	-	4	-	-
Studland	-	-	42	-	6
Turnerspuddle	-	-	-	-	-
Tyneham	Military Training Area				
Wareham St. Martin	2	-	102(50)	4	50
West Lulworth	-	2	20	-	19
Winfrith	-	2	30	-	14
Wool	2	2	64	2	24
-do- (Bovington)	-	-	140	(2 (2(O.S)	42
Worth Matravers	-	-	6	-	5
Total	23	10	929(56)	24 2(O.S)	315

Figures in brackets (.) indicate temporary prefabricated bungalows included in totals

O.S. indicates part of 1957 programme outstanding.

## PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE

There were no serious outbreaks of notifiable infectious disease in the district during the year. 30 cases of whooping cough and 141 cases of measles were notified, compared with 38 notifications of whooping cough and 38 cases of measles in the previous year.

Apart from eight deaths from pneumonia, two from respiratory tuberculosis and one from tuberculosis other forms, there were no deaths from notifiable infectious disease.

### Diphtheria

One case of diphtheria was notified during the year - the first for eight years.

The disease occurred in a child aged five years living in the Furzebrook area, and who had not been immunised. C. diphtheria mitis type guinea pig virulent was isolated from the case, swabs from the rest of the family were negative. Investigations failed to reveal the source of infection in this case.

### Scarlet Fever, Whooping cough and Measles

In no case was there undue severity or complications in these diseases. Only one case of scarlet fever, one of whooping cough and two of measles were admitted to hospital.

### Dysentery

One case of sonne type dysentery was notified.

### Influenza

In common with the rest of the country a relatively mild form of influenza was prevalent in the district during October and November. Four deaths were registered as ~~to~~ due to influenza during the year.

### Tuberculosis

Ten cases of respiratory tuberculosis were notified compared with fourteen in the previous year. One case of other forms of tuberculosis was notified which is the same as in 1956.

Two deaths from respiratory tuberculosis and one from other forms of tuberculosis were registered.

### Acute Poliomyelitis

The one case of paralytic poliomyelitis notified occurred on 31st. July, in an Army cadet aged 17 years, who came from a neighbouring County to Lulworth Camp on 28th. July. It was presumed that infection was contracted outside the district.

### Poliomyelitis Vaccination

The local health authority continued the vaccination of children under a scheme initiated by the Ministry of Health, and during the year 756 children in the district, born between 1947 - 1956, were given a course of two injections by the District Medical Officer, compared with 182 in the previous year.



Notifications (Corrected) Figures

Disease	1st. Qtr.	2nd. Qtr	3rd. Qtr.	4th. Qtr.	Total	Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
Scarlet fever	2	-	1	4	7	1	-
Whooping cough	29	37	13	1	80	1	-
Measles	7	45	87	2	141	2	-
Ac. Poliomyelitis-paralytic	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
non-paralytic	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis - respiratory	3	3	3	1	10	5	2
other	-	-	-	1	1	-	1
Diphtheria	-	-	1	-	1	1	-
Meningococcal infection	-	-	-	1	1	1	-
Dysentery	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Ac. Pneumonia	2	2	-	6	10	7	8
Malaria	-	1	-	-	1	1	-

Cases of Infectious Diseases Notified During 1957

Disease	Total	Age Groups												
		Under 1	1 - 2	2 - 3	3 - 4	4 - 5	5 - 9	10-14	15-24	25&Ov.	A.U.			
Scarlet fever	7	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	1	-	-			
Whooping cough	80	9	3	7	7	5	35	6	2	4	2			
Measles	141	6	8	8	17	12	53	34	1	1	1			
Ac. Poliomyelitis-paralytic	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-			
Diphtheria	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-			
Meningococcal infection	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-			
Dysentery	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-			
Ac. Pneumonia	10	Under 5		5 - 14		15 - 44		45 - 64		65 & Ov		A.U.		
		-		3		4		2		1		-		
Tuberculosis - respiratory other	10 1	Under 5		5 - 14		15 - 24		25-44		45-64		65 & Ov		A.U.
		1		1		1		4		2		1		-
		-		-		1		-		-		-		-

Scabies and Verminous Conditions

One case of scabies, and no case of verminous conditions were reported during the year.

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948Section 47. Removal of Persons in Need of  
Care and Attention to Suitable Premises

It was not necessary to take action under this section of the Act during the year.



FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 and 1948Part 1 of the Act

## 1. INSPECTIONS for the Purposes of Provision as to Health (including Inspections made by the Public Health Inspectors)

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		In-spections	Written Notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i) Factories in which sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authority	26	21	8	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by local authority	33	7	4	-
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the local authority (excluding Outworkers premises)	30	2	-	-
Total	89	30	12	-

## 2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of Cases in which Defects were found				No. of Cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	By H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S1)	8	7	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S4)	2	2	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences (S7)					
(a) Insufficient	3	3	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	1	1	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	14	13	-	-	-

OUTWORKSection 110 and 111

Nature of Work	No. of Outworkers in August List reqd. by Sec. 110(1)(e)	No. of Cases of default in sending lists to Council	No. of Prosecutions for failure to supply Lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel (making etc. cleaning & washing)	43	-	-	-	-	-





